



<b>Technique:</b>	Straight Stitch
<b>Brand:</b>	Coats®
<b>Crafting time:</b>	Evening
<b>Skill Level:</b>	Beginner/Easy

Featuring Coats® For Your Home fabric by Vicki Payne available in Walmart®.

**Size**

11-3/4" x 19-1/4" x 5-3/4" (29.8cm x 48.9cm x 14.6cm)

**Supplies**

- 5/8 yard (57.2cm) Coats® For Your Home SAFY003.LINKS in Black for tote
- 5/8 yard (57.2 cm) Coats® For Your Home SAFY015.CREWELL in Mineral for lining
- Coats® For Your Home SAFY010.LATTICE in Seafoam, cut 4" x 19" (10.2cm x 48.3cm) contrast fabric for front band
- Coats® For Your Home SAFY003.LINKS in Black, cut 2 1/2" x 19" (6.4cm x 48.2cm) contrast fabric for front band
- Coordinating Coats & Clark Dual Duty XP® all-purpose thread
- 1/2 yard (45.7cm) fusible batting

**Additional Requirements**

Sewing Machine

## Cutting

From Tote fabric and lining fabric:

1. Cut 2, 21" x 19" (53.3cm x 48.3cm) rectangles from tote fabric. Repeat with lining fabric.
2. Cut 2 handles from tote fabric 6" wide by 20" long (15.2cm x 50.8cm).

From fusible batting:

3. Cut 2, 21" x 19" (53.3cm x 48.3cm) rectangles from fusible fleece.

## Instructions

Seam allowance 1/2" (1.27cm) unless otherwise noted.

1. Apply fusible fleece to the wrong side of each tote bag piece. Center the fleece on the fabric and attach following manufacturer's directions.

### Contrast Strips

1. Turn under and press 1/2" (1.27cm) along the long edges of both fabric strips.
2. Place one tote bag piece right side up on a flat surface. Center the 4" (10.2cm) strip on the tote with the wrong side of the strip to the right side of the fabric. The short raw edge of the strip should align with the 21" (53.3cm) edge of the tote. Pin in place and stitch close to each edge.
3. Layer and center the remaining strip in place in the same manner. Stitch close to each edge.

### Handles

1. Fold the handles in half lengthwise with wrong sides together and press.
2. Open out the handle and bring each long edge to the center fold-line and press. Refold along the original crease.
3. Stitch close to each edge of the handle.
4. Pin handles in place, about 4 1/2" (11.4cm) in from each side. The raw edge of the handles should be even with the top edge of the tote. Machine baste in place

## Assembling the Tote

1. Pin the tote front and back with right sides together and raw edges even. Stitch along the side and bottom edges. Press seams open.
2. Refold the bag so the side seam is over the center of the bag bottom, the corner of the back will come to a point. Measure and mark a line 5" (12.7cm) long across the seams. Repeat in remaining corner. Stitch across the marked line.
3. Turn tote right side out.

## Lining

1. Pin lining pieces with right sides together and raw edges even. Stitch along the side and bottom edges, leaving an opening in one side edge for turning. Press seams open.
2. Refold and stitch lower corners of lining in the same manner as above.
3. Place tote inside the lining right sides together and upper edges even. Stitch around the upper edge of the tote.
4. Turn right side out through the opening in the lining. Press.
5. Stitch lining closed along the open edge.
6. Top stitch the upper edge of the tote 1/4" (.64cm) from the edge.